

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KATHMA 05542 241032Z

21

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02

USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 AID-05 /043 W

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P R 241000Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3804

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

UNCLAS KATHMANDU 5542

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR NP US

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE KHATRI INTERVIEW WITH PRESS

1. AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE KHATRI MET WITH PRESS DECEMBER 22 PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE TO WASHINGTON. KHATRI SPOKE HIGHLY OF U.S. ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO NEPAL. "WE HAVE BEEN FORTUNATE," HE IS QUOTED, "TO RECEIVE UNINTERRUPTED ASSISTANCE FROM THE U.S. BOTH IN ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL AREAS." AS A RESULT, "THE U.S. IS AWARE OF NEPAL'S GROWING NEEDS IN RECENT YEARS." KHATRI POINTED OUT THAT THE AMERICAN COMMITMENT TO ASSIST DEVELOPING NATIONS IS "GENUINE AND BEYOND POLITICS," AND HE NOTED THAT MORE AND MORE OF U.S. ASSISTANCE HAD BEEN CHanneled INTO MULTILATERAL AGENCIES. DESPITE "MANY OTHER INTERESTS AND INVOLVEMENTS AROUND THE GLOBE, THE UNITED STATES HAS BEEN GENEROUS IN HER ASSISTANCE AND SYMPATHETIC IN HER UNDERSTANDING OF NEPAL'S NEEDS AND ASPIRATIONS."

2. KHATRI DESCRIBED U.S.-NEPALESE RELATIONS AS "WARM AND EXCELLENT" AND SAID THAT ASIDE FROM DIFFERING POSITIONS ON "SOME INTERNATIONAL QUESTIONS" THERE WERE NO SUBSTANTIAL PROBLEMS IN BILATERAL RELATIONS. HE TOLD REPORTERS THAT HMG APPRECIATED THAT AMERICAN POLICY TO STRENGTHEN RELATIONS WITH NEPAL WAS "INDEPENDENT OF THIRD PARTY INTERESTS OR ATTITUDES."

3. KHATRI TOLD THE PRESS THAT HIS PRIMARY MISSION IN
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WASHINGTON WOULD BE TO "FURTHER FRIENDSHIP AND ENLARGE AREA

OF COOPERATION" BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. HE ALSO NOTED THAT "HIS MAJESTY'S PROPOSAL TO DECLARE NEPAL A ZONE OF PEACE AS WELL AS HIS CALL TO UNLEASH THE FORCES OF DEVELOPMENT ARE NOW THE FOREIGN POLICY PRIORITIES OF NEPAL. ALL OF US, ESPECIALLY THOSE ACCREDITED TO MAJOR CAPITALS, WILL HAVE TO BE MORE ACTIVE IN ENLISTING INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORT FOR THIS CAUSE."

4. FULL TEXT WILL BE POUCHED.
CARGO

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NNN

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